

## PHOTOGRAPH A LION

The King of the Forest Wouldn't Smile and Look Pleasant.

He Interrupts Proceedings by Trying to Engulf an Unsuspecting Chinaman—The First Operation of the Kind on Record.

There was a sensation in a Market street photograph gallery the other afternoon—sensation and a lion, says the San Francisco Chronicle. There had been many lions there before, but they were ordinary social lions. This was a four legged fellow, a big, tawny beast with a cavernous mouth and a voice like a fog horn. It was Commodore, an eight-year old lion from the west coast of Africa. Though he is a member of a theatrical troupe, yet, wonderful to relate, he does not like to have his picture taken.

The big brute was carried up into the gallery in a box closed on all sides. A ring had been screwed into the floor to half a dozen curious people crowded into the gallery to see the fun. Then they all tried to get out at once. His majesty didn't like the way he had been jostled in going up a flight of stairs, and when his box was open he came out with a jump. His voice expressed savage dissatisfaction as well as his manner.

He was soon quieted. His master stood by, and, coolly pointing at him, ordered him to be still. The lion tamer had nothing in his hand, yet the animal crouched, and, though its great face was wrinkled into a nasty snarl, allowed itself to be fastened to the ring.

Just then a Chinese entered the gallery. He came to see the lion. He only wanted one glance. The lion leaped toward him with open mouth and the Chinese fled. He was afterward found concealed in another apartment, but could not be induced to again approach the operating room. The lion lay down calmly enough till the photographer got to work. When he saw the big one-eyed animal he must have taken the camera to be some zigzagging toward him, he growled ominously. The eyes that had been sleepy flashed, and his bulky head stood on end as he reared his head forward, awaiting the advance of his foe. When the camera came to rest he still eyed it suspiciously, every now and then emitting a rumbling growl that made the ladies who had gathered near the windows of the room start back.

His attention was soon drawn to another camera. This second one came up with a squeak that brought him to his feet. The first camera was forgotten in this more aggressive one. It was unfortunate that the camera was not focused in order to catch his defiant attitude. The grand head in its frame of bristling mane, the lithe body so suggestive of latent power, made a noble picture, in spite of the chain with which he was incumbered.

A few words from the trainer put him again in a crouching posture. He lay quietly enough while the plates were being changed and a half dozen pictures were taken. A big flashlight photograph was then suggested. This powder was put in the little pans of the framework. Behind each pan was a flame of gas. It was thought best to move this frame of lights to the other side of the camera.

An attendant picked it up. The lion had become so quiet that the man disregarded him. He started with his frame of lights toward the lion and the camera. He did not see the lion gather himself slowly together. If he had he would not have gone on with his work so quietly. The animal's lower jaw dropped, his nose curled back, exposing his curving teeth; his whole appearance was one of anger. Then "Wangli!"

The lion leaped to the end of his short chain with a mighty roar. It was short and quick, but deep—so deep that even those who were anticipating it were startled. The man with the flashlight frame was not startled, though. The expression of his face indicated his sensation. He was scared, scared badly too. The jump he made put out all the lights on the frame and would have insured him a place as an acrobat with any circus in the land.

After the flashlight picture had been taken the lion was loose. He did not want to a bit, but he went back into the cage just the same. Then six men carried it to the top of the stairs and it was slowly lowered. This is thought to have been the first time a full-grown lion was ever taken into a gallery.

Rockless Customer.

The New York Tribune tells a story of a boy who did not mean to be heartless but spoke without weighing his words.

He had lived all his short life in a city but recently went to visit at a "real farm." He was in ecstasies. Every animal on the place was a delight to him, but he felt particularly in love with a Jersey calf.

"I'd like to buy it," he said to the owner.

"But what would you give in exchange?" he was asked.

"My baby sister," answered the boy, with the utmost gravity. "We have a new baby at our house almost every year, and we've never had a calf!"

A Beaming Intelliger.

What once passed in Boston for a practical joke has been perpetrated in stone. A flagstone in the Faneuil market bears the deeply chiseled imprint of a large human foot. The legend is that a countryman was accustomed long years ago to loaf about the market to the annoyance of busier persons. A clerk in one of the stalls at length stooped down beside the idler and outlined his foot upon the pavement. When the countryman returned on the next market day he found that the outline of his foot had been chiseled into the stone, and he took this broad hint to get out of busy men's way.

PLANTATION COURTSHIP.

The Art as Practiced According to Uncle Gilbert's Method.

Among the slaves there were regular forms of courtship, and almost any large plantation had an experienced old slave who instructed young gals in the way in which they should go in the delicate matter of winning the girls of their choice. "Uncle Gilbert" was the shoemaker on a plantation where there were a hundred slaves.

He was very learned in the art of courtship, and it was to his shop the slave girls went for instruction. I never had the honor of being one of the old man's pupils, being too young when I knew him to make inquiry along the courtship line, but I tracked many young men to Gilbert's shop in the interest of general gossip.

The American slave's courtship words and forms are the result of his attempt at imitating the gushing elegant manners and speech of his master. Uncle Gilbert's rules of courtship were that a "young man must 'es' an prove a gal befo' offerin' her his han'. If er gal gives a man a good anser as he gives her question, den she is all right in min'. If she can look him squar' in de face when she talks to him, den she kin be trusted, an' ef her patches is on straight an' her close clean, den she is gwine ter keep de house straight an' yer brithers mended. Sich er ooman is wuth havin'."

Here is a sample of a courtship conversation:

He—My dear kin' miss, has you any objections to my drawing my cher to yer side, and revolv' de wheel of my conversation around de axle of your understandin'?

She—I has no objection to a gentleman addressin' me in a proper manner, kin' sir.

He—My dear miss, de worl' is a howlin' wilderness full of devourin' animals, and you has got to walk through him. Has you made up your min' to walk through him by yerself, or wid some bold walyer?

She—Yer 'tergation, kin' sir, shall be answered in a ladylike manner, ef you will promose me dat it is not for er form and er fashion dat you puts de question.

He—Der miss, I would not so impose on a lady like you as to 'es' her a question for a form an' a fashion. Believe me, kin' miss, dat I has a pertickler object in ingagin' yer in conversation dis afternoon.

She—Kin' sir, I has knowed many a gentleman to talk wid wise words an' 'fatterin' looks, and at de same time he may have a devotin' heart. May I ask yer, kin' gentleman, ef you has de full right to address a lady in a pertickler manner?

He—I has, kin' miss. I has seen many sweet ladies, but I has never up to dis day an' time lef de highway of a single gentleman to foller dese beacons lights. But now, kin' miss, as I looks in yer honest face, and hears yer kind voice, I must confess, dear lady, dat I would be joyous to come to yer beck and call in any time of danger.

She—Den, kin' sir, I will reply in anser to yer 'tergation in de full place, sence I think you is a honest gentleman, dat I feels dat a lady needs de protection of a bold walyer in dis worl' where dere's many wil' animals and plenty of danger.

He—Den, kin' honored miss, will you condescend to encourage me to hope dat I might, some glorious day in de future, walk by your side as a pertickler walyer?

She—Kin' sir, ef you think you is a bold walyer, I will condescend to let you pass under my observation from dis day on, an' ef you proves wuthy of a conffin' lady's trust, some lady might be glad to accept yer pertection, and dat lady might be me.

This brings us to the point where the two agree to become lovers, and, as love's language is not reducible to writing and repetition, we will leave them.—Journal of American Folk-Lore.

HE SAID THE RIGHT THING.

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